IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yuichi KUROKI

Serial No.: New

Filing Date: February 25, 2002

For: GASKET FOR FUEL BATTERY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, immediately following the title, please insert the following sentence: --This is a nationalization of PCT/JP01/05470 filed June 26, 2001 and published in Japanese.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 10 as follows:

10. (amended) A gasket for a fuel battery as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a front surface (38) of a circuit formed in the substrate is coated by a protecting member constituted by an insulating membrane.

REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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JCH/cmf

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

10. (amended) A gasket for a fuel battery as claimed in claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 9], characterized in that a front surface (38) of a circuit formed in the substrate is coated by a protecting member constituted by an insulating membrane.